



ATTACHMENT A

Remarks

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 2 – 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 2 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Claim 3 has been cancelled.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1 – 4, 6, 9 – 16 and 19 in different combinations, have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Tanaka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,502,167) ("Tanaka") and as being anticipated by Kasebayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,758,191) ("Kasebayashi") while claims 5, 7, 8, 17 and 18 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 7 and intervening claims 3 and 6 and, accordingly, claims 3, 6 and 7 have been cancelled. Thus, claim 1, as amended, is allowable. Further, claims 2, 4 and 8 – 13 depend or have been amended to depend from amended claim 1 and thus are also allowable.

Additionally, original claims 5 and 8 have been rewritten in independent form as new claims 30 and 31, respectively, to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Thus, new claims 30 and 31 are also allowable.

The only other independent claim is claim 14 and this claim has been amended to recite a method of writing information to a single disk drive storage device, including the steps of: receiving a command to write information to the single disk drive storage device; determining two locations on the single disk drive storage device to write the information; and writing the information to both of the two locations on the single disk drive storage device based upon a single reading of the information. It is respectfully

submitted that claim 14, as amended, patentably defines over both Tanaka and Kasebayashi.

Tanaka teaches a disk array controller including a plurality of interfaces with respective processors for connector with a host computer or multiple disk devices. Tanaka teaches multiple magnetic disks (FIG. 2, elements 570, 580, 590, 600, col. 4, lines 20 – 23) and a shared memory (FIG. 2, element 560). A dual write operation is described with respect to the shared memory (FIG. 8 and col. 7, line 49 – col. 8, line 6). However, it is respectfully submitted that Tanaka does not teach or suggest writing information to two locations on a single disk drive storage device, and thus does not teach or suggest the method, including writing information to two locations on a single disk drive, claimed in amended independent claim 14.

Kasebayashi teaches a method for buffer management in a disk drive having a first segment for storing burst data and a second segment used for write and read commands. A data reception unit receives data sent from a host system, writes the data in the burst area of the buffer, changes the start address of the read / write area into the start address of the burst area, and writes the data sequentially to the magnetic disk (col. 6, lines 1 – 13). The data is written to the magnetic disk to only one location on the magnetic disk. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Kasebayashi does not teach or suggest the method, including writing information to two locations on a single disk drive, claimed in amended independent claim 14.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that, for reasons set forth above, amended claim 14 is allowable. Further, claims 15, 16 and 19, which depend from claim 14, are therefore allowable for at least the reasons provided in support of the allowability of independent claim 14. Claims 17 and 18, which have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but have been indicated to be allowable, depend from amended claim 14 and are allowable for that reason in addition to being separately allowable.

END REMARKS